

# CALL THE BALL

VOL.2 NO.63

The Newsletter of the 130th Composite Squadron

Apr 2004

## UNIFORM OF THE DAY 1 & 3rd weeks BDU — 2 & 4th BLUES!



### **Commanders Corner:**

I'm happy to report that 1LT Rod Walker has accepted the position as your DCOC (Deputy Commander of Cadets) Lt. Walker is a former cadet and during his days as a cadet earned the Mitchell award. I believe his experience and enthusiasm for cadet programs will be a valuable asset to our squadron. As some of you have guessed we have decided to make Emergency Services our

pet project for the near future. Those of you who have made the mark by earning the coveted Ground Team Member (or leader) patch will not have to sit around wondering what to do for we plan to incorporate you in the teaching phase. If you would like to be proactive please contact Lt Rossler (Our ES officer) with a class (or two) that you

### Getting your Gear in gear.

St Paul's Pioneer Press has a very good article for hikers and campers in the 8 April newspaper. These words of wisdom ring true for those of use interested in ground team \*or just camping in general. If I can summarize it. Separate the "Fire Related" items. Replace damp matches refill lighters and clean stoves. Make sure your batteries are good or replace them. Check your food supplies if you have some Desert Storm era MREs bury them in a distant neighbors backyard or mail them to Major Browning at Red Wing squadron. Check your mess kit out and see if there is still a clod of Gravy dried on the spoon! \*uggh! If you have a water filter on your canteen clean it. You can run a solution of bleach and water (two tablespoon bleach / 2 liters of water) through the filter and let it dry. How many of you have Camel Back hydration packs? Did you remember to store it with the water bladder open? If not its time to replace it for you have just hatched some wonderful Mold. Throw out the expired first aid, bug spray (Got Deet?) and sunscreen. Once done replace them! Check your sleeping bag, tent and web gear for rips and tears. Sweep out the tent and spray it out with a hose. Dry it! How are your boots? Shine them YES but replace the inserts with a new one. Supergel or Superfeet are good ones. Sharpen your knives and axes. Last of all get out your calendar and make a list of the following dates for we expect to see you there!

### **May 8 RESCUE FIRST AID**

I want to strongly encourage you to attend this training event at the Prior Lake Library starting at 1 PM. Uniform of the day is BDUs or Civies for the folks still waiting on a uniform.

### **May 22,23 MiniGSAR**

We host the Ground Search and Rescue School and YOU need to participate to make it a success. Bring you search load, sleeping bag, tent and "Roughing it" food. We plan to have a lot of fun learning how to be a better ground team member. Expect extra challenges with the inclusion of our SARDOG members and the dreaded MRE recipe / cooking contest! Barf Bags are optional. If you need an additional training date to qualify for GTM you can take the previous Saturday off for the Group 3 SAREX.

### **26 June Model Rocketry day**

We host it and want to hold onto our trophy! Remember this year we will perform it on a week-end so expect LOTs of competition from other units. This year's event is a Scale Model one so build your replicas with the goal of a museum quality finish. 11 September is the RV fly-in at the Webster Airpark. You will see some of the coolest home made airplanes in the world and get to help direct them so they don't chew off each others tails \*As happened the one year we didn't participate.

**5,6 November the Urban Direction Finder School / Foxhunt.** Learn and Compete! Will St Croix squadron continue to show us up? Or will the 130<sup>th</sup> "B" team (or A or C for that matter) regroup to show them who is boss?

### **Blackcap XX RECAP (2004) by Maj Craswell**

Well to say it was fun would be an understatement. Being in a group of 100 people all dedicated to Emergency Services and not to mention having a fun (and rather silly) time is a big plus. Now, that no showers or baths for a few



**YOU FROG KILLER! MURDER MOST FOUL !**



**FIRE (POTATOS) FOR EFFECT!**

days routine? Well.... Anyhow, I was joined by Cadets Lilimo, Craswell and our enthusiastic new transfer from Valley Cadet Squadron Babcock. We arrived to the scene of mass signing in. Special Blackcap XX water bottles were being handed out along with the all-important FROG and the fun began. To stimulate the concept of teamwork members were assigned to various flights. The Delta Demons \*for example sat down with a packet of instructions and bandanas??? Well unlike gang members no one started wearing these on their heads. And while the "teams" did fairly well not too many bothered to read the INSTRUCTIONS!!! Duh! Well better luck next time. Some decided that decisions would be made by the leader of the team others opted for a democratic vote and some just assigned the smallest member to do all the work. <sigh> Oh well it WAS educational! Yours truly "borrowed" the polecat hat and saluted a few big shots with a wave of

the reverse tail. Several attendees apparently didn't understand the importance of the Frog (cough - ah - Babcock) and tried to sell it?! <shudder> Others committed the nearly unspeakable sin of loosing their frogs and had to apologize to the entire unit and jump over each leapfrog style to the great amusement of all. The most unspeakable event in the history of Blackcap occurred when the Cadet Commander and his deputy stomped a plastic frog to death in front of the entire unit! Major Browning, Captain Dalton and I immediately rushed to the aid of this Frog and attempted to revive it. Major Browning's mouth to mouth resuscitation might even have worked if that had been the frog's mouth... Chaplain Mikkita and Lt. Duncan rushed the Frog to better facilities by stretcher but it was too late. A Frog died at Blackcap. Murdered! Death most foul! Let us never speak of it again. Innovative drill was quite amazing with the Senior / Geezer flight doing real drill correctly!? A cadet flight portrayed last year's cadet commander "Teal" as Pope?? This was a 9 on the silly-o-meter! Special guests from the year 1600 arrived to show that Drill was not much different 400 years ago. Drill instructors still yelled, and men in formation still needed to know left from right. One benefit of these early years is that Hazing was not an issue for goof offs were simply shot or hung for minor infractions. A series of Matchlock rifles were fired (to no effect) on the ramp at Red Wing. Several nervous flyers appeared to change their minds on doing a run up near our area. Our friends from the past fired high velocity potatoes several hundred yards with an ancient mortar. In short if you like loud explosions this was the place to be. Fortunately no one asked them what they wore under the kilts. So, if that sounds like fun lets hope to see you at Blackjack Err BlackCAP 21 in 2005.



**HUMM... WHAT IS WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?  
WHERE ARE MY SAFETY OFFICERS???**



**AIM IT THE OTHER WAY?  
GOOD IDEA!**